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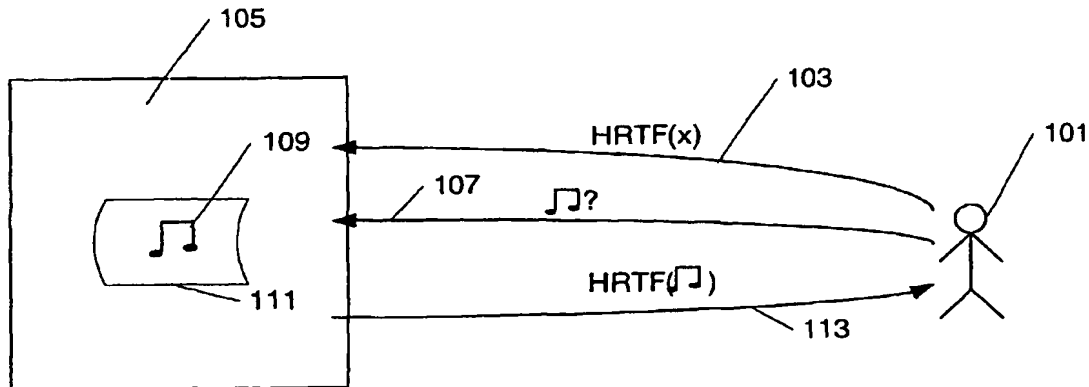
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.** [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **AARTS, Ronaldus, M.** [NL/NL]; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **SCHOBSEN, Daniel, W., E.** [NL/NL]; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **VAN LUIJT, Balthasar, A., G.** [NL/NL]; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
- (74) Agent: **GROENENDAAL, Antonius, W., M.**; Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
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(54) Title: AUDIO DISTRIBUTION



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for a service provider to distribute an audio signal to a listener. Before delivering the audio signal to the listener, the audio impression of the audio signal is personalized to the listener. The personalizing could e.g. be performed by filtering the audio signal using a set of head related transfer functions (HRTFs) defined by parameters being specific for the listener. This is for minimizing the interest of performing illegal copying of the audio signal. The invention further relates to a method of playing back a distributed audio signal and a playback device for playing back a distributed audio signal, where the personalization is detected and used as a watermark, which is identified and interpreted before playing back the distributed audio.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	US 5 495 534 A (IIDA YASUHIRO ET AL) 27 February 1996 (1996-02-27) abstract column 2, line 40 -column 3, line 10 ---	1-10
A	WO 01 71987 A (LAKE TECHNOLOGY LTD ;LAYTON LEONARD CHARLES (AU)) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27) abstract claim 1 --- -/--	1-10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Dionisi, M

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Internati Application No
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A	WO 99 43111 A (PERSONAL AUDIO INC) 26 August 1999 (1999-08-26) abstract page 2, line 22 -page 4, line 8 -----	1-10
A	WO 01 24576 A (PLUVINAGE VINCENT ;PERKINS RODNEY (US); RX SOUND (US)) 5 April 2001 (2001-04-05) cited in the application abstract -----	1-10

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